THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Granite reserves in Andhra Pradesh are estimated at 3 million cu.m. (m^3). The most important deposits occur in Chittoor, Hyderabad, Khamman and Warangal Districts.

(c) In order to promote export of cut and polished granite, entrepreneurs are being granted letters of permission under the 100% EDU Scheme to establish granite cutting and polishing units. Such Units are eligible for grant of Exim Scrips at 30% of the net foreign exchange earned. Exports of cut and polished granite are also eligible for Income Tax benefit under Section 80 HHC of I.Tax Act.

(d) and (e) Since the applications for financial assistance from banks/financial institutions are not required to be recommended/endorsed by the Central Government, information regarding number of units which have applied for financial assistance as 31.5.91 is not available.

171

Promotional Avenues of Civilian Security Officers in Defence Installations

5942. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether civilian security officers in defence installations appointed through U.P.S.C. do not have any promotional prospects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for their training as per latest security requirements for better prospects in their career?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). In 1984, the Government had declared the cadre of Civilian Security Officers as "dying out" and, consequently, no proposals for improvement of career Prospects of this cadre were taken up. However, in December, 1990, the decision declaring this cadre as "dying out" was reviewed and it has been decided to revive and restructure this cadre.

(c) Directions have been issued for providing in service training to civilian security officers in all aspects relevant to their jobs.

172

Maintenance of National Highway No.47 in Tamil Nadu

5943. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken by the union Government to maintain the Kanyakumari-Trivandrum section of National Highway No.47 particularly the portion lying in Tamil Nadu which has been severely affected by the recent monsoon rains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Kanyakumari-Trivandrum section of National Highway No. 47 in Tamil Nadu is being maintained in a traffic worthy condition. The pot-holes etc. developed during recent monsoon rains are being repaired by the Tamil Nadu Department of Highways.

172

Smuggling of Gold on Indo-Bangladesh Border

5944.SHRI. S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to be state:

(a) whether the smuggling of gold has been on the increase on the Indo-Bangladesh border for the last several months;